



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
NORTHEASTERN REGIONAL FIELD OFFICE
4050 Crums Mill Rd, Suite 203 Harrisburg, PA 17112



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Contact: King Whetstone
717-787-3904

USDA SEEKS INPUT FROM GROWERS ABOUT 2015 CROPS, STOCKS, INVENTORIES, VALUES

HARRISBURG, PA – During the next several weeks, U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will conduct two major mid-year surveys, the June Agricultural Survey and the June Area Survey. Nearly 5,300 farm operations across the Northeastern Region will receive a survey to determine crop production and supply levels in 2015.

"Due to the widespread impact of its results, the June Agricultural Survey, also known as the Crops/Stocks Survey, and the June Area Survey, are two of the most significant surveys NASS conducts," explained King Whetstone, director of the NASS Northeastern Regional Office.

"Information growers provide serves as the first clear sign of the prospective production and supply of major commodities in the United States for the 2015 crop year."

NASS gathers the data for the June Agriculture Survey online, by mail, and by phone. For the June Area Survey, agency representatives will visit randomly selected tracts of land and interview any operators with agricultural activity. Growers will provide information on crop acreage – including biotech crops—as well as grain stocks, livestock inventory, cash rents, land values, and value of sales.

NASS will compile and analyze the survey information and publish the results in a series of USDA reports, including the annual *Acreage* report and quarterly *Grain Stocks* report, both to be released June 30, 2015. Survey data will also contribute to NASS's monthly and annual *Crop Production* reports, as well as the annual *Small Grains Summary* and USDA's monthly *World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates*.

As with all NASS surveys, information provided by respondents is kept strictly confidential, as required by federal law.

"NASS safeguards the privacy of all responses and publishes only state- and national-level data, ensuring that no individual operation or producer can be identified," stated Whetstone. "We recognize this is a hectic time for farmers, but the information they provide is essential to everyone involved in U.S. agriculture. I urge them to respond to these surveys and thank them for their cooperation," said Whetstone.

All reports are available on the NASS website: www.nass.usda.gov. For more information on NASS surveys and reports, call the NASS Northeastern Regional Field Office at 1-800-498-1518.

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